

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) Device for indicating tension in tension means
 - which is placed around a rigid web (3) which forms the connection between strap (2) and tension means (7), and is surrounded in a streamlined shape by the formed loop of the strap (2);
 - which allows for a recoverable deformation of the spring (4) under tension;
 - which allows for a scale (10) on which the tension can be read;
 - which is composed of a combination of movable, spring-like, or rigid components;
 - which is composed of a loose or fixed combination of at least two components;

characterized in that the spring (4) is combined with a formed piece (5) in a positively engaging manner such that the tension of the tension means deforms the spring (4) up to the end position (8) determined by the formed piece (5) within a lower range, and such that the tension does not further deform the spring in a second upper range of the tension since the spring contacts a formed piece (5) in its closed position – with the result that there is no overextension, and thus no change in the spring constant of the spring (4) and in a predetermined indication range (6).

2. (currently amended) Device according to Claim 1, characterized in that a combination of the spring (4) and the formed piece (5) is a device in which the individual parts can be both loose as well as, preferably, rigidly anchored.

3. (currently amended) Device according to ~~Claims 1 and 2~~Claim 1, characterized in that the formed piece (5) has two legs (5a, 5b) and is deformable in a pressure-dependent manner until reaching the positive-

engaging end position (8), that the formed piece follows the movement of the spring (4), and that based on the changing position of the two legs (5a, 5b) the respective pretensioning force is readable by means of a dimensional indicator (10).

4. (currently amended) Device according to ~~Claims 1 and 2~~Claim 1, characterized in that the formed piece (5.4) is designed to be dimensionally stable independently of the pressure.

5. (currently amended) Device according to ~~one of Claims 1 through 4~~Claim 1, characterized in that the spring (4) and the formed piece (5) are fabricated out of different materials, preferably spring steel and plastic.

6. (currently amended) Device according to ~~one of Claims 1 through 5~~Claim 1, characterized in that the spring (4) encloses the formed piece (5), or the formed piece (5) surrounds the spring (4), so as to bring about a rigid anchoring between the two components.

7. (currently amended) Device according to ~~one of Claims 1 through 6~~Claim 1, characterized in that the formed piece (5) includes dimensional indicators (10) which are directly engraved or can be mounted on the formed piece (5) as separate components.

8. (currently amended) Device according to ~~one of Claims 1 through 7~~Claim 1, characterized in that the formed piece (5.2, 5.3, 5.4) has mounted on it a movable component (9) which is displaced along a track by the motion of the spring (4) so as to produce an expanded indication range (6).

9. (currently amended) Use of the device according to ~~one of Claims 1 through 8~~Claim 1 for tension means (7) such as ratchets and shackles.